

Milton Scrapbook 1897 to 1990

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies  
reported in Cambridge Newspapers

summarised by

Mike Petty

Many of these stories were featured in my 'Looking Back' column in the Cambridge News from 1996-2014. They are supplemented by some selections 'From our Old Files' published in the Cambridge Independent Press and other notes.

The complete 'Cambridgeshire Scrapbook' of which this is a small section is published online at [bit.ly/CambsCollection](http://bit.ly/CambsCollection)

I have digital and other copies of most of the stories summarised.  
I hope to publish these online one day. If you would like them in the meantime then please get in touch.

The original volumes are housed in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library where there are many other indexes dating back to 1770.

They also have detailed newspaper cuttings files on over 750 topics that have been compiled since the 1960s.

Newspapers sometimes get things wrong. I copy things out incorrectly. Do check

There are a multitude of spelling and layout errors. Please forgive or correct them

News never stops but this file was finished on 31 August 2016.

I will maintain supplements and corrections – contact me for anything you need

Please make what use of these notes that you may. Kindly remember where they came from

See my website – [www.mikepetty.org.uk](http://www.mikepetty.org.uk) for further notes.

Mike Petty, Stretham

2016

1897 03 05

The clerk (of Chesterton Urban District Council) read a letter from the chairman of the Milton Parish Council stating that he had been asked to draw the attention of the Council to the large heap of rubbish on Mr Few's land near the railway crossing which was causing a nuisance throughout the neighbourhood. It seemed the contractor who gathered their house refuse had deposited a large heap within 10 yards of the public highway. There were 200 or 300 yards of house refuse in a large heap, and it generated an amount of gas and bad sent. The smell was infinitely worse than the smell from the sewage farm

1897 07 08

The Cambridge Sewage Farm at Milton threatens to become a fruitful source of friction between the Chesterton Rural Authority and the Cambridge Corporation. From time to time complaints of a very serious nature are made concerning the odours which arise from that establishment, coupled with further complaints of polluted water in the public drains. It is clear that if something is not done to remedy the nuisance we shall have a recurrence of litigation

1898 05 11

Cottenham parish council considered a request from the Milton parish council asking them to join in petitioning the County Council to take such steps as might seem fit for the purpose of constructing a light railway from the crossing on the Milton Road to Cottenham via Landbeach. After discussing the question it was agreed that the Milton route would be best for passenger traffic to Cambridge. Therefore it was agreed to support the petition

1899 03 18

Milton horsemen, p3

1899 05 09

Village feasts have sadly degenerated of recent years, and that of Milton is a striking example. Years ago merry-go-rounds, shooting galleries, and coconut shies were erected, but this year there are only a couple of stalls, on which cheap toys and indigestible looking sweets are exposed for sale. In the licensed houses musicians play interminable polkas, which are danced more or less gracefully by country maidens and their swains. The feast is of three days' duration

1900 03 06

Sir – At present gates cross the railway line on Milton Road, Cambridge, and a sub-way is provided for vehicular traffic. After heavy rains it is flooded some feet deep and a few days ago the driver of a carriage containing an invalid lady found over five feet of water there, and no room to turn round. The invalid and her attendant had to sit up to their knees in water, and in their saturated clothes had to proceed to the Hospital. – Viator

1902 01 28

A rabbit coursing and whippet race meeting was held in a field near the Milton Road, Cambridge and some good sport was witnessed. There was a smaller programme than on some former occasions. A good entry was received and some fine dogs were in the field. A proposal has been made to organise a coursing society for Cambridge and the idea is receiving considerable support.

1902 08 15

Milton coronation, p2

1904 10 08

Master Wee Willie M. the Waterbeach schoolboy, is a precocious child with a liking for cigarettes. He purloined a silver watch, sold it and devoted the proceeds to the purchase of his favourite brand. In the natural order of events he appeared before the magistrates who remanded to an industrial school. The prospect an exchange of the freedom of Waterbeach for the confinement of one of these dreadful

schools was not at all to his liking, so when he was packed off in a carrier's cart Willie made up his mind to escape at Milton and has disappeared

1904 12 29

Milton cycle explosion, p3

1906 06 14

The consecration of a new churchyard at Milton was performed by the Bishop of Ely. The new burial ground, which is a portion of the glebe land, is situated some distance from the church on the Landbeach Road. The weather was rather inclement but notwithstanding a good-sized congregation assembled for the service. 06 06 14e

1906 06 15

Milton churchyard, p4 \*

1907 09 28

Sir – the cartage of the sewage filth into Milton is again in full swing. Considering the outbreak of fever at the Hospital and at Cherry Hinton everyone must agree this is a terrible risk to run and it should be stopped. Crude sewage was run as usual on Sunday down a ditch to Baitsbite Lock which should supply the lower fen with pure water. This is within a few feet from where the University boats start, and would hardly commend itself to rowing clubs – 'Ratepayer' 07 09 28

1908 07 31

Cambridgeshire County Council have purchased a farm at Milton by auction and arranged to hire land at Guilden Morden and Isleham for use as smallholdings. They have also been offered 166 acres at Herod's Farm Foxton for £3,500. Petitions have been received from applicants urging the early acquisition of land in Over and Wicken. CWN 08 07 31

1910 03 18

Licensing meeting – Over Sow & Pig, Willingham Black Horse, Chesterton White Horse, Comberton Red Lion, Cottenham Boot, Longstanton Red Cow, Milton Three Tuns, Shelford Three Tuns 10 03 18b

1910 05 06

Death of Alfred Marshall Robinson, Milton; Guardian & Chairman Chesterton RDC 10 04 29F  
Under the new Midwives Act no woman can habitually attend women in childbirth unless she is certified. There were 54 midwives on the register of whom 30 were trained. Ten of the untrained women were between the ages of 65-75 and might need replacing before long by reason of death or infirmity. There was only one trained midwife at Willingham and an untrained woman at Landbeach. There were none at Isleham, Burwell, Wicken, Upware, Milton, Cottenham, Swavesey or Histon. Some mothers can afford the fee of a medical practitioner but are unable also to pay the full fee of a skilled nurse and so may turn to unregistered women 10 05 06b & c

1910 07 01

Licences for: Bassingbourn Beerhouse in the fen, Meldreth Green Man, Fulbourn Coach & Horses, Chesterton White Horse, Cottenham Boot, Fen Drayton Horse & Gate, Longstanton Red Cow, Milton Three Tuns, Shelford King William IV, Shudy Camps Chequers, Linton George & Dragon. Cambridge Star & Garter Petty Cury, Cardinal's Cap, Crown & Anchor, Borough Boys, Ship, Merry Boys, Prince Albert, Oxford – all refused. Melbourn White Lion & Swavesey Little Rose renewed 10 07 01 & a

1912 02 23

About 150 Boy Scouts took part in a convoy scheme at Histon. The idea was that a Blue Force, about 40 in number, was besieged in Histon village by a Red Force of over 60 Scouts, while a Blue relief column from Cambridge, some 40 strong, divided into two parts, each with a trek-cart, endeavoured

to relieve them. The relief party, under Scoutmaster Curzon, advanced via Milton but met with serious opposition at Impington. A detachment of the Red Force was sent to hold the level crossing on the Histon-Girton Road but was ambushed. After the 'Cease Fire' the scouts had tea at Histon Institute  
12 02 23h

1912 03 01

G.H. Pearson coal merchant of Milton and two or three men were carting firewood across the river in a boat from the Horningsea side, leaving a horse attached to a heavy tumbrel cart on the towing path at the point where the Milton Fen road branches off from the river. The horse took fright at something and backed down the bank – which is very steep – into the river. It got across to the Horningsea side, then turned round and came back as far as it could where it had to stay until the men reached it with the boat. They freed it from the cart when the animal scrambled out, none the worse for its cold bath. Eventually the cart was also got out. 12 03 01e

1912 04 05

Sir –Milton cemetery is a disgrace to civilisation. There is so much water almost standing within three feet of the surface (it having never been drained) that it is impossible to dig a decent grave there at all. The graves are never dug more than five feet down. The gravedigger has thrown up his job in disgust as the stench that comes through from the other graves with the water. He has to bale out the water until the funeral procession enters the cemetery then put an armful of straw in the bottom to hide the water from the mourners. – Bertram Pearson 12 04 05c

1913 08 29

Stack fires Milton & Wimpole

1914 01 30

It is not surprising that the bad example set by the militant suffragists should incite young village people to mischievous pranks. 'Votes for Women' decorate the rail of a bridge on the road to Milton. Now daubs of black discovered on property at Landbeach would lead one to think that supporters of the feminist cause had been paying a visit. Great annoyance has been caused by the smearing of gates and walls with tar. The iron gates leading into the churchyard have been freely daubed and users of the village pump have, on seizing the handle, found it black and sticky. But the acts have been traced to two lads of previous good character 14 01 30j

1914 02 06

The bad example set by the militant suffragists incite young village people to mischievous pranks. 'Votes for Women' decorate the rail of a bridge on the road to Milton. Now daubs of black at Landbeach suggest that supporters of the feminist cause had been paying a visit. Great annoyance has been caused by the smearing of gates and walls with tar. The iron gates leading into the churchyard have been freely daubed and users of the village pump have, on seizing the handle, found it black and sticky. But the acts have been traced to two lads of previous good character

1914 06 04

W.B. Redfarn Milton Hall museum p7

1914 11 20

Belgians – Balsham, Milton, Fulbourn, Burwell

1916 03 15

Farm Fire. A serious outbreak of fire occurred at King's Hedges, near Milton, on Wednesday evening on a farm in the occupation of three smallholders, Messrs. Hawkes, Curtis and Tuffin. The fire was first observed shortly before nine o'clock, and before the flames were got under control great damage had been done to the outhouses, all of which were practically burnt, whilst a pony and two pigs were also destroyed. A good deal of concern was felt in Cambridge, the reflection of the flames in the sky being plainly seen from the town. Helpers from Histon and Milton and a party of soldiers, led by an

officer who had noticed the glare in the sky, rendered valuable assistance in fighting the flames, whilst the County Police, under the direction of the Deputy Chief Constable (Supt. Webb), also afforded valuable aid. The house and several stacks and a good deal of livestock were thus saved. The loss, we understand, was covered by insurance.

1916 05 17

Sequel to Milton Feast - At Cambs Divisional Bench on Saturday, a Biggleswade man was summoned for selling cigarettes to a boy under the age of 16 years at Milton on May 9. Evidence was given by the boy, who said his age was 13. He stated that defendant was in charge of a stall at Milton Feast. There was a board at the back of the stall to which cigarette packets were fastened. By throwing darts, sold at two a penny and transfixing the packets they might be won. He won 10 packets but did not smoke any of the cigarettes. A constable said he saw defendant and told him that cigarettes must not be sold to boys under 16. Ten other boys, whose ages ranged from seven to 13, were seen smoking in the village. Defendant said he thought the boys took the cigarettes home to their fathers. The magistrates imposed a fine of 10s.

1916 06 28

Milton Man's Noble Death.—The death occurred in France between June 2 and 5 of Pte. Walter John Froment, third son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Froment, of Milton. The deceased soldier, who met his death in a noble fashion - for he fell while dressing a fallen comrade's wounds - went to Canada in 1913. He joined the Medical section of the 2nd C.M.R. Battalion. 8th Infantry Brigade, and returning to England in October last, finished his training at Bramshott Camp, Surrey. He went to France at the beginning of this year.

1916 08 02

Runaway Horse - Female workers from Chivers' fruit farms in a lorry had an alarming experience corning through Milton on Monday evening. The horse bolted and went about a mile before being pulled up. A Mrs. Benstead, of Horningsea, who jumped off the lorry and sustained rather severe injuries, was unconscious for some time. Mr. Scriven, who was passing, took her in his sidecar to Dr. Robson's, where she received attention and was conveyed home.

1916 11 22

Photo women on land, Milton women – 16 11 22e

1917 01 10

Cambridge Vicar's Marriage — At the church of All Saints, Milton on Monday morning the wedding took place very quietly of the Rev A.C. Allen, Rural Dean, Vicar of Little St Mary's Cambridge and Miss Mary Elizabeth Hawson (Sissy) Pryor, elder daughter of Mr. J. V. and Mrs Pryor of Furness Lodge, Cambridge. The officiating clergyman was the Rev. G. A. Weekes, Dean and Fellow of Sidney Susses Col-lege. The bride, who was given away by her father, was married in her travelling dress. There were no bridesmaids or best man. A family breakfast was held at Furness Lodge and later the Rev. and Mrs. Allen left en route for Bournemouth, where the honeymoon is being spent. The presents were numerous and costly.

1917 03 07

The Mail Cart - On Wednesday evening last the mail cart, which has been running for about 20 years between Cambridge and Willingham, via Milton. Landbeach, Cottenham and Hampton, could be seen making its last journey. Arrangements have now been made for the Cottenham and Rampton mail in future to come from Cambridge to Oakington station by train. Mr. Albert Young, of Rampton, has been appointed to fetch the mail from Oakington in the morning and to carry it to Oakington in the evening. Owing to these alterations, the Cottenham letters will be delivered an hour later than usual. The mail in the evening will so out at 8.45 instead of 8 o'clock, necessitating the posting of letters an hour and a quarter earlier than usual. The mid-day delivery will remain as before. There will in future be no delivery or dispatch on Sundays.

1920 07 14

W.B. Redfern of Milton Hall collection of hunting swords featured in 'Connoisseur' magazine – 20 07 14a

1920 08 25

Milton grocer failure – Walter Smyth – 20 08 25a

1920 08 11

Football - The annual meeting of the Histon and District Football League was held in the Histon Institute on Wednesday evening. Mr. L. R. Neaves, of Coton, occupied the chair, and was supported by the hon. secretary of the League (Mr. J. Harold Peck), and there were representatives from the following clubs: Willingham, Cottenham North End, Milton, Comberton, Histon Institute, Girton, Oakington, Cottenham, Horningsea and Coton. Apology for non-attendance was received from Over Hotspurs. Mr. John Chivers was re-elected president of the League, and the following vice-presidents were also elected, subject to their consent: Dr. J. M. King (Willingham), Mr. Arthur Rhodes (Histon), the Rev S. T. Adams (Cambridge). Dr. Balsam (Girton). Mr. F. H. Keats (Milton), Mr. T. F. Essex (Milton), Mr. Thomas Ivatt (Cottenham), the Rev. W C. Cooke, R.D, and the Rev. R. Smith (Histon), Mr. Philip Papworth (Oakington), Mr. John Papworth (Landbeach), the Hon. E. S. Montagu, M.P. Mr. G. Rogers (Comberton), Mr. Gordon Baker (Girton), Dr. Ellis (Cottenham), Mr. B. W. Silk (Coton), and Rev. David Oliver (Over). Mr. A. T. Rogers was re-elected hon. treasurer and Mr. J. Peck auditor. Mr. J. Harold Peck was re-elected hon. secretary, and Mr. L. B. Neaves (Coton) chairman of the council. The secretary's report, which was very satisfactory, was presented by Mr. J. H. Peck. Over Hotspurs were the winners of the cup, with Coton runners-up. The treasurer's report was also presented, and showed a satisfactory balance in hand. Various alterations were made to the rules of the League and it was decided this year to present twelve medals instead of eleven as heretofore. The entrance fee to clubs this season is 10s. Entries close September 1.

1921 03 16

W.B. Redfern being compelled through his landlord to give up his residence of Milton Hall is looking for a house – 21 03 16d

1922 05 22

A story of a courageous old lady of 88 who declared she "was not a bit afraid" when she routed two burglars was told at the Cambs Divisional Court. Miss Larkin of Milton said that last Saturday evening she put her gloves, handkerchief and one penny on the chest of drawers in readiness for church on the following morning. She was awakened by a noise which she at first thought was a train shunting. After a time she saw two men come in through the bedroom door carrying the lamp from her big room in their hand. Witness jumped out of bed, lit her candle and said "What do you want". They had handkerchiefs over their faces which she pulled down.

1922 06 17

A number of young men were summoned for committing damage to a calico advertisement sheet at Milton by throwing stones. Mr Jacobs had a field in Milton fen in which were two scaffolding poles with the sheet attached to them. The canvas hoarding had been absolutely destroyed. The sheet was four yards by one yard. This was not the first time this sort of thing had occurred; these men came to the Fen and thought they could do as they liked. The hoarding bore the words "The Motor Park"

1924 02 15c

The principal objects of the Milton and District Smallholders' Co-operative are the purchasing of agricultural implements for the use of members, the finding of suitable markets for their produce and generally co-operating to the best of their ability. During the last year sales of milk had realised £4,869 & the earnings of the threshing machine amounted to £423.



1924 07 01c

It was alleged that because a Milton smallholder did not have a fried egg with his breakfast of fried bacon, fried onions and milk sop he assaulted his wife, striking her with his cap, a frying pan, and his hand. The magistrates, after a lengthy hearing, dismissed the case and gave both parties some excellent advice and warned them not to appear at Court again.

1925 08 27

With regard to water supplies in the Newmarket rural district 83 of the 103 water samples taken for analysis were reported to be polluted. In Soham where about 100 houses were supplied from 56 polluted wells, 53 have been connected with the public water main and now of 1,123 structurally separated dwellings 860 are supplied from the mains. At Bottisham 12 samples taken from different wells at the north end of the village all afforded evidence of pollution. In Linton a new public well has been bored into the chalk & consideration has been given to the provision of a new public well at Milton which it is expected will shortly be proceeded with.

1925 12 02

The overnight frost in Cambridge was sufficiently severe to ensure another day's sport for skaters. At the Cambridge sewage Farm, Milton Road, where the ice had a thickness of about two inches, skating was continued with safety and there were quite a number of people, chiefly Varsitymen, "making gay while the ice holds". The popular plus four suit and warm pull-over, is just the thing for this kind of sport, but one noticed a number skating in ordinary suits.

1925 12 04

Sir – I must utter a strong protest against the action of some person in authority in the town in trying to put a stop to skating on the Corporation Sewage Farm at Milton. It does seem a pity that when the opportunity for such a splendid form of recreation occurs only once in a generation, that some kill-joy should throw hot water, in this case, on such inexpensive pleasure for the public, with notices of 'keep off the ice', barbed wire entanglements, and a policeman taking the names of trespassers on skates. There were hundreds taking the risk of being prosecuted rather than miss the opportunity of such splendid sport - Bertram Pearson

1926 08 14

Herbert Diver, caretaker of Milton Hall, told the court he noticed the lead from the roofs of the laundry and dairy was missing. The ridging had also been taken off the coal shed and accumulator house. In the laundry he had missed the copper. The prisoners said: "We did it sir. We had not much money to buy food with. It was either that or starving". They were sentenced to six months' hard labour

1926 08 28

Chesterton Guardians' Coal Emergency Officer said the emergency would be on for another month and they should buy another 200 tons for the needs of the district. The villages were still suffering from shortage and farmers had no coal to thrash with. That morning he had three smallholders from Milton begging for coal. He had managed, through the kindness of Mr Warren, to let them have three tons. In future as soon as there was any indication of the likeliness of a strike they should take precautions.

1928 05 21

Herbert Spalding, parish constable of Landbeach, said he went to Milton feast and had a turn at a penny-in-the-slot machine. He started with 7d and got down to a penny but then won 8d and finished with 3d profit. He found it better to let the machine run and not press the controls. There were 15 automatic machines in the booth and men, women, boys and girls were using them. Some players used the knobs and some did not; it did not seem to make any difference. The games were chance and not skill. A fine of 5s was imposed on the proprietor.

1928 06 01

The Clerk of Milton Parish Council drew attention to the cess-pool known as the pond and urged that the only way to remove this eyesore, which was a menace to the health of the village, was to fill it up. The pond, being on a bend in the road was a danger to traffic on dark or foggy nights. The road was a County thoroughfare and it would be to their advantage if the pond were filled up.

1928 06 28

Mr & Mrs Burling of Milton were in their house during a thunderstorm. The aerial of his three-valve wireless set was attached to a large tree and the other end to the front of the house. Suddenly there was a tremendous clap of thunder and a noise like an explosion. The room was full of sparks and fire; he heard his wife scream and saw her hair was on fire. With great presence of mind he put out the flames and carried her into the next room. The curtains were alight and two of the wireless valves were completely broken.

1928 12 05

A passenger train travelling from March to Cambridge at over 40 mph crashed through one of the level crossing gates at Milton during dense fog. A motor lorry was practically on the rails. The engine driver appears to have been ignorant of the accident until he stopped some distance from the gates to await a signal. He then sent the fireman back to see what had happened. The passengers were unaware of any mishap. The Milton gates seem to be ill-fated. Numerous similar accidents have occurred there.

1928 12 15

St Catharine's Farm, Coton, has been taken over by the Stetchworth Dairies. Built in 1922 it contains the finest buildings of any farm in the Eastern Counties and it is because of the spacious byres for cows that the Dairies have secured it. It is another asset to their fine chain of model milk producing farms, which includes Ditton Hall Farm, Rectory Farm Milton and Aldham House Farm, Chesterton. At Merton Hall Farm, Madingley Road the cows are milked by electricity.

1931 10 20

Sir - Many in Histon and Impington are perplexed as to how they will be affected by proposals to include them in Cambridge. This failure is largely due to their own neglect by not attending public meetings organised by the parish councils. The critical factor is sewerage: there are plans to build an estate at Girton but the Ministry say it must be sewered and Histon would be included to make it worthwhile. A sump near the Ballast Hole, a pipe line following the railway and sewer beds near Milton seem the answer. But how will it be paid for? – W.F. Robinson. 31 10 02f

1932 10 21

Mr Butler, who owns a filling station on the main Cambridge-Ely road at Milton, said two men drove up in a large Talbot saloon car and asked for ten gallons of petrol. While he was screwing on the cap the car began to move. He jumped on to the running board but it drove off at high speed through the village, swerving on to the verge to try and knock him off. He fell into the road and was picked up by a lorry driver. The car was stolen in the London area. 32 10 21a

1933 02 16

Milton doctor dispute – 33 02 16a

1933 02 17

Milton parish council has erected a seat across the gateway of a Doctor's house. Now the only way in from the road is to climb the fence and drop down on to a flowerbed. They had agitated for a pond which stood in front of 'The Willows' to be filled in with the ground retained for the use of the parish. The doctor made a new entrance before the council could put up the seat, but they went ahead anyway. 33 02 17a



1933 03 04

No longer will tradesmen have any difficulty gaining access to Dr Woodman's house at Milton. The siege was partially raised when Dr Woodman, watched by a number of villagers, pulled down the whole of the fencing with which his entrance has been blockaded, sawing it in half. Then, in persistent rain, the seat that had been erected by the Parish Council was dug out from its foundation of solid concrete and placed on one side without harm. 33 03 04a

1933 03 17

Milton school was packed for the largest meeting ever held in the village. Although very 'lively', it was kept well in hand by the chairman, despite cat-calls, boos and other vocal demonstrations. It broke up quite amicably with a resolution demanding the resignation of the whole of the Parish Council over the 'boarding up' of Dr Woodman. 33 03 17b

1935 96 26

The proposed Cambridge town planning scheme envisages a ring road to encircle the whole town with the construction of by-pass roads and the improvement of dangerous junctions. The level crossings on the Milton and Cherry Hinton roads will be replaced with bridges. An area of 190 acres on Milton Road opposite the sewage farm acres is reserved for a municipal aerodrome with a municipal golf course off Trumpington Road 35 06 26a

1936 01 28

The Air Ministry say it is very desirable that a new Cambridge municipal aerodrome site should be provided in the near future. Land at Milton had been recommended by Sir Alan Cobham but this would cost more than £33,000 and take at least two years to build. Messrs Marshall's existing flying ground at Newmarket Road is quite inadequate for present requirements and they could have a new site at Teversham ready in a year, councillors heard. 36 01 28b & c 36 01 30a

1936 96 25

Councillor Wilding asked if the new sewage plant would prevent "the effluvia we all notice so strongly along Milton Road" and if not, whether consideration would be given to the moving the works further from the road. Lately the smell had been terribly bad, although people in the neighbourhood got used to it. The Mayor said he was frequently at the farm and never smelt anything which could be described as "terribly bad". Mr Edwards remarked, amid laughter, that he thought the Mayor should receive nasal attention 36 06 25 & a

1938 03 04

Albert E. Tebbitt formerly of Milton and farmer of 400 acres at Wentworth was British amateur skating champion 1895-1905; won the cup outright, also winning Duddleston Cup and Cameron Cup twice. In 1895 skated dead heat with H.A. Palmer over 37.5 miles on the Cam. 38 03 04d

1938 03 19

Queen Anne Lodge at Milton was threatened by a fire that started in the sheds of a market gardener in High Street. Flames gained such a hold that they were burnt to the ground and the contents including a pig float, motor cycle and several bikes destroyed along with a sow, dog and 50 head of poultry. The flames spread to within a few feet of the two neighbouring thatched cottages and some outhouses in one of the gardens were caught. But the brigade was able to stop the outbreak. 38 03 19e

1938 12 22

After many hours of continuous snow-fall 400 men commenced work on the gigantic task of clearing a path for road traffic and pedestrians and six snow ploughs were brought into use. The three new motor ploughs were a great success and buses were able to keep to schedule exceptionally well. But everything is disorganised at the post office: some of the mail trains are arriving late and it looks as if letter deliveries will have to be pushed right up to Christmas Day. A large crowd skated on a flooded meadow at Newham but at Milton Sewage Farm the ice was too thickly coated with snow. 38 12 22 & a

1939 03 07

Cambridge & District Town Planning scheme inquiry heard that Grantchester Meadows, a large area of land between Cambridge and Coton, the University Farm and land at the Gog Magog Hills had been safeguarded. An area of 160 acres near Trumpington should be reserved for a municipal golf course. But at Rectory Farm, Milton the field the Corporation wanted to take was the only old pasture on the farm and the tenant had 21 cows and a bull. If he had to give it up it would take 10 years before the grass would be useful for milking purposes 39 03 07a

1942 10 23

Milton's Centenarian, — In a bungalow looking on to the Fen Road, Milton, lives a kindly, white-haired lady, who attained her 100th year last Monday. She is Mrs. Eliza Gooding, and is affectionately known as "The Centurion" She enjoyed a "great" birthday in more ways than one. Among her 14 telegrams was one very special greetings sheet which read: "The King and Queen are much interested to hear that you are celebrating your 100th birthday and send you hearty congratulations and good wishes." Mrs. Gooding, who lives with her daughter, Mrs. George Pearson, is able to trace her lineage back to very ancient farming stock, and she originally came to Milton, where she has remained for 66 years, from Willingham

1943 01 30

Harry Denton Hartle awarded medal after plane taken off from airfield crashed and burst into flames near home, lived Milton – 43 01 30

1943 05 28

£300 for bottle of whisky.—The Milton Parish Council made a new venture when they held a social in aid of Wings for Victory on Saturday. The festivities were ably supervised by the chairman (Dr. Woodman) and Messrs F. E. Garner and B. E. Lander, two councillors experienced in these events. The whole evening realised £2,000, of which the auction was responsible for £1,581. Notable prices were.- Bottle of whisky £300, port £220, basket of groceries £175, basket of tomatoes £150, silk tablecloth £100, sitting of eggs £85, bottle of home-made wine £60, case of beer £55, and a box of chocolates, a basket of new potatoes and three separate Savings Certificates £50 each.

1945 05 28

R.J. Green install modern washing and grading machine with loading hopper at Milton Pits to supply stone – 45 05 28, 45 06 05a

1945 04 27

Corn Exchange boxing. — A crowd of about 1,500 saw Eric Hall (Milton) bring off another of his spectacular wins at the Corn Exchange on Monday, when he knocked out John Newman (Cambridge) after the contest had been in progress one minute. The first time Hall connected he put Newman on the canvas. Newman was quickly sent' down" again and, on rising, was unable to keep Hall away. Hall brought the fight to an end with a perfect right to the chin. J. Ryan (Gloucester) beat W. Redit (Soham) on points. Ryan, using his reach to advantage, had the better of the first round. Next two rounds were fairly even, though Redit's general ship, took him out of a nasty situation. In the fourth round Redit carried the fight strongly, but Ryan was sound in defence. Ryan missed badly, but continued to have slightly the better of the exchanges, and he was awarded the decision after a very close contest. In the top-line contest, Jim Anderson (Waltham Cross) outpointed Marcel Ludavino (Free French Navy). Other results: Henry Maguire (Cambridge) beat Sgt. A.g. Norman Boon (Leicester) on points; L.A.C. Tommy Myers (R.A.F. and Leeds) beat Bill Haley (London) on points; Billy Boyd (Peterborough) knocked out Roy Pearmain (London) in the second round.

1946 02 15

Battle of Britain pilot killed in Meteor crash at Milton – 46 02 15

1946 03 26

Break-in at Milton Camp, gum, chocolate and confectionary stolen – 46 03 26

1948 02 04

In the Commons yesterday, Mr Leslie Symonds (Lab., Cambridge) asked the Secretary for War how many persons the former U.S. Army camp at Milton Road, Cambridge, was built to accommodate and how many persons were accommodated there now. Mr Shinwell replied that the camp was built to accommodate 850 troop on a war basis. On a peace-time basis it could accommodate 700. The unit at present occupying it totalled some 400 and the surplus accommodation was earmarked for another unit which would move in this month

1949 03 05

An appeal was heard against the decision of the County council not to permit the working of gravel in some fields adjoining the railway crossing at Milton fen. The present workings at Milton gravel pit were practically worked out. The clerk of Milton parish council produced a petition protesting against the use of the land for workings, signed by the majority of residents in Fen road. The land in question was very good agricultural land.

1949 06 03

The story of the swans at Milton gravel pits is a tragic one. It begins in the spring, when a pair of mute swans built a nest, which was robbed in April. A second clutch of eggs was laid but the sitting pen (hen bird) was stoned to death. The cob took over the incubation and sat for three weeks within six feet of the decaying corpse of his mate. Finally, last week, the lone bird was driven from the nest, and the eggs were smashed, although they must have been nearly hatching. Bird life at the pits and on the adjacent sewage farm is protected.

1949 10 03

Magistrates at Cambridge were faced with the problem of defining whether using petrol for towing a hare round a dog-tracing track came under the category of driving for pleasure. P.S. Shanks said on going to a field at Milton, where dog racing was in progress, he saw a motor lorry with the rear jacked off the ground, and with an attachment for towing the hare round the track, fixed to a rear wheel. At the commencement of a race, the lorry would be started up, driving the rear wheels round, which would in turn wind in the cord to which the hare was attached. Defendant said he had petrol for use in connection with greyhound racing and for domestic and pleasure purposes. As far as he was concerned his pleasure came from using the car at the race meetings. He was fined £2

1951 04 04

The pros and cons of a proposal to establish a greyhound race track on land off the Landbeach Road, Milton were argued before a Planning inspector. The applicant said greyhound racing is not a particularly offensive form of sport and it might be pleasant for local inhabitants to have some sort of recreation on the spot. There would be 104 evening meetings per year with floodlighting in the winter. The County Council said it would be difficult to refuse permission to expand in other directions, such as speedway racing. The main road was one of the busiest in the county carrying an average of 145 vehicles an hour. Mr J.R. Ginn (Over) said he was one of the largest breeders of greyhounds in the county & we badly need a track for Cambs.

1951 06 11

The Cambridgeshire of the future will have a number of new roads, fire & police stations, sewerage schemes, old peoples' homes, a new children's home and a mental deficiency colony. Planners say villages recommended for enlargement include Milton, Fulbourn, Shelford, Barton and Coton where the population will increase from 400 to 1,840. Road improvements recommended include a bypass to the east of Girton relinking the road interrupted by the RAF station but Cambridge bypasses are not shown as surveys show there is no immediate need for them.

1952 03 27

When Chesterton RDC acquired land to erect 2,000 council houses in “necklace villages” in order to accommodate the “over-spilled” population of Cambridge they should obtain sufficient land to allow for private building as well, said a councillor. Council houses were subsidised to the extent of £35 12s. and building private houses would ease the financial burden. The sewerage of the parishes of Milton and Great and Little Shelford was already in and they should be the first villages to be developed. Fulbourn, Stapleford, Harston, Barton and Coton were also on the priority list.

1952 06 21

Mr Lloyd Stokes, owner of land at Trinity Hall Farm, Milton, said there were 140 armoured vehicles on the land waiting to be shipped. He wanted an access from Green Park because he had a number of tanks coming through the back and wished to enlarge the front entrance on to Milton Road. It was dangerous and an agricultural machine such as a 12-foot combine could not get through. The County council suggested the city should buy this piece of land and put there light industry, not likely to cause any nuisance.

1953 10 29

There is a big demand in Cambridge for caravans – but there is nowhere to put them, two Milton caravan site proprietors told an inquiry. “Young couples have the deposit but they won’t have them because we cannot guarantee them a site in the area, near their work”. There is a large site at Gt Shelford but when people buy a caravan on the hire purchase they just cannot afford £1 a week rent for the site. They proposed to have 14 caravans adjoining the White Horse and 30 alongside the Milton Laundry. The Parish Council had no objections.

1953 12 09

Mr R.J. Green appealed against the refusal of permission for the extension of his existing gravel works at Milton. He had occupied the site in 1946 and never received any complaints. The land was first-class for gravel, poor for agriculture and not suitable for housing. But County planners said that under the development plan the population would increase to 1,700 compared with 750 in 1951. If the population is to be doubled the people coming into Milton should be considered from now on. If granted it would bring the gravel workings right up to the village street in Fen Road & be a serious loss of land for housing.

1954 05 27

The owner of historic Milton House was granted possession and awarded £2,500 damages and the tenant of the house, said to be in “an absolutely shocking state”, must quit in three weeks, Cambridge magistrates decreed. The house, once owned by William Cole, was of antiquarian interest. King’s College had owned it and spent £899 on it in 1932; now it was almost derelict and the garden a wilderness. A tree fell on part of the building in 1946. There was valuable panelling in the building rotting in places. An estate agent said it did not look as if it had been painted for about 20 years. Repairs would cost £2,432 at least and its value in the present state was about £1,250

1954 10 06

The Minister of Education has refused to allow funding for a new school for Milton, but one new classroom will be built. There will also be building at Babraham, Histon and Cheveley while Harston is growing fast and a pre-fabricated classroom would be constructed. The position at Kennett shows how quickly a development plan was out-dated. The roll at this single-roomed school has risen from 14 to 27 and would continue to increase. Negotiations would start to purchase the premises now held on lease and plans for an extension prepared.

1954 10 30

An inquiry was held into plans for a 14-acre pit at Milton; it would produce much-needed gravel and the workings would be useful as rubbish tips. The owner had taken it to provide sand for his roofing tiles business and owned it for 25 years. He would keep it under agriculture as long as possible and it would take 20 years before the mine covered all the land. But the county council said Milton was an

expanding village and needed a recreation ground. Householders petitioned against it saying the pit was not wanted at Milton

1955 05 17

The Minister has overruled the County Council and allowed a small extension to the gravel pit at Milton. Part of the site was allocated as a recreation ground and it was undesirable to permit gravel working near existing and proposed residential development. The gravel was of good quality, greatly in demand for building purpose. 55 05 17a

1955 06 25

Sawston residents objected to the 'obnoxious smell' that would be caused if a sewerage disposal station were constructed near their homes. One said that he had never known a sewerage works not to smell and referred to the 'terrible stink along the Milton Road'. Experts said the smell did not come so much when the winds blew as in wet, warm muggy weather. 55 06 25b-c

1956 03 19

The 'Slap Up' corner at Waterbeach is not as dangerous as many road users think: in the last four years there have been only six accidents and improvements are not high on the priority list. If a roundabout were built motorists would not like it, as it would mean their having to slow down. The large aerodrome had increased traffic but the road from Milton was in process of being widened and it is possible that a lay-by for lorries would be built. 56 03 19b

1956 04 26

Since the Cambridge sewage purification works at Milton Road were first built, over 60 years ago, treatment has consisted of settlement in tanks followed by passing the sewage to land areas from which is drained into the river. Now new extensions are being built, all sewage will be properly purified and land treatment will be ended for ever. At a later stage gas driven off during the drying process will be burnt to drive electricity generators for the works and for a new pumping station at Cheddars Lane. 56 04 26a

1956 04 24

A Central School girl claims to have seen a flying saucer over Milton and Impington. "It came towards me at a very fast rate and disappeared back in the direction it had come. There were little windows all round it", she said. Asked whether it could have been the airborne elephant from Bertram Mills circus straying slightly off course she laughed and said "That is impossible". Nothing would shake her belief that this was a flying saucer. 56 04 26b

1956 05 25

A Cambridge man was injured when he fell with a rotten electricity pole on which he had been working at the Milton Road Army camp. Several poles had blown down in a storm in March 1953. The Clerk of Works said that as that one had withstood the gale he had assumed it was safe. 56 05 25a

1956 05 29

Joseph Lucas appealed against the County's refusal to permit them to erect a service depot on 'virtually derelict' land at Milton. The back part was gravel pits, now worked out and it had been used for breaking up of army vehicles. It was too small for agricultural purposes, but not zoned for industry. Planners were looking forwards 25 years when further development had taken place in Milton and Cambridge: it would be desirable to separate the two entities and have an open patch in between. But it was an objectionable site and nobody would want to go there for pleasure. 56 05 29b & c

1956 06 29

Something must be done about the 'intolerable stench' from the Milton sewage farm; the recent smells were the worst for 24 years; perhaps disinfectant could be used to tone them down. Farmers



wanted a plant to convert the sewage sludge into compost – many were buying it from places like Manchester. 56 06 29c

1957 02

Thurston Dart of Jesus College has a clavichord amongst his collection of 20 musical instruments. They include a harpsichord, viola da gamba and an 18th-century Dutch pipe organ brought from a cottage at Milton. He began to collect them in his undergraduate days, put them in store while he did his R.A.F. service, then brought them to college when he came to teach music. His students play them as part of their studies. 57 03 02 c & d

1957 06 07

The Minister has approved plans to reduce the rate of growth of Cambridge but increase the development of nearby villages like Histon, Girton, Milton and Coton. However no deliberate expansion will take place at Teversham, Hauxton, Madingley or Grantchester. Villages can only preserve their identity and character if they remain physically separate from each other so a Green Belt will be introduced. 57 06 07a

1957 09 04

Milton Women's Institute has two 14-year-old members. One is Jean Pearson, daughter of Milton's President, who is following the membership footprints of her two grandmothers. The other girl is Maureen Smith, daughter of the Institute's treasurer. 57 09 04

1959 01 31

Milton church renovation – 59 01 31

1959 03 20

Milton parish church is to be floodlit – not by electricity, but by Calor Gas! It is believed to be the first time that a church has been floodlit by this means in the country and the equipment for the display has been loaned by Messrs King and Harper. It is part of its campaign to attract £5,000 for urgent repairs. 59 03 20c

1960 05 03

Light industries already accommodated in Cambridge may be moved to a site between the sewage farm and the industrial development south of Milton. Part of the land is used by the Cambridge Pre-Cast Stone Company and is within the proposed Green Belt. S.G.B. has applied for eight plots for workshops engaged in light industry on land used for storing and breaking up Army vehicles. It is an area of no great beauty, is primarily derelict and very little use for anything else, an Inquiry was told. 60 05 03b

1960 11 04

The original pumping machinery at Cheddars Lane sewage station is still in use today with its pumps driven by steam operated engines. Until the war the city's combustible refuse was employed for supplying the engines with steam, boosted slightly by coal or coke. Then the calorific value of refuse dropped to such an extent that it did not do the job efficiently so the system was reversed with steam being obtained from coke boilers to which odd loads of refuse are added. Now a new station will be built running entirely on electricity to be generated from the methane gas produced by the sewage itself at Milton, so completing the circle. 60 11 04a

1961 01 07

The village of Milton may double in size and soon there would be another 60 cars wanting fuel. However there is only one filling station, it did not have a suitable entrance and was often obstructed, it an Inspector was told. But plans for another nearly opposite the Lion and Lamb public house had been rejected by the County Council who said there were eight filling stations between Cambridge and Ely, an average of one every one-and-a-half miles and another would be a traffic hazard. 61 01 07



1961 05 30

With taxation problems and death duties many stately homes are being turned into business premises. Abington Hall was a private residence for a Mr Bertrand who surrendered it to the Army during the War, it is now the British Welding Research Association. Lord Inchcape left Chesterford Park in 1918; it became a Jewish Home for Incurable and is now Fison's Pest Control research centre. The mansion at Shudy Camps houses thousands of chickens having been acquired by Lyddite Chicks in 1949 - 61 05 30d also Madingley Hall, Milton Hall, Wimpole Hall, Babraham Hall belongs to the Agricultural Research Council

1961 09 08

Oakington was unsuitable for major residential development, the County Development Control Officer told an inquiry. It had mains electricity, gas and water but a sewage system was not expected for three or four years and the school was already overcrowded. There is a distinct danger of development outstripping the services available. Cottenham, Girton, Histon and Milton were more suitable. But there were swarms of builders after any land for which planning permission had been granted. The developer said there was a heavy demand for houses in the £2,000 range and he would install an estate sewage disposal system 61 09 08a

1962 02 23

The Cambridge Society for Mentally Handicapped Children, formed seven years ago, hopes to establish a residential home for those who are capable of an amount of self-help but need accommodation when their parents can no longer care for them. At present the only option is admission to a large hospital catering for all types of mental defect. The Society have purchased a large sombre-looking Victorian house in Milton which will be transformed with the careful use of colour to meet the best of modern standards. There will be a sheltered workshop for those capable of industrial work 62 02 23d

1962 06 15

Landbeach School was overcrowded with 49 children divided into an infant and junior class for which there are two teachers. It would be better if it were closed with children going to Waterbeach. But the County did not have the right to shut a Church-controlled school unless there was one nearby, and that at Milton was already full. Parents were opposed: the school had been part of the life of the village for 200 years; once closed it was most unlikely there would ever be another one. 62 06 15a

1962 08 16

Milton church is in urgent need of restoration. One of the wooden roof beams fell down during a service several years ago, originally over a foot wide it had been eaten away by Death Watch Beetle until parts were barely five inches across. Walls are crumbling, stonework cracking, tracery disintegrating and the belfry floor can no longer be walked upon in safety. But the Rector, Rev H. Franklin sees it as a challenge, and he enjoys a challenge. 62 08 16c

1962 10 06

Cambridge Society for Mentally Handicapped Children, Edmund nurseries Milton being renovated – 61 10 06a

1963 02 12

Milton diversion will eliminate double bends in the Cambridge Road – photo 63 02 12

1963 07 01

Milton war memorial being moved – 63 07 01a

1963 09 04

A new stretch of the A10 Cambridge-Ely Road which has just opened will cut out a narrow road bend in Milton village. The new length of road starts near the Milton War Memorial junction and continues

through to the Northern side of the village. It forms part of Cambridgeshire County Council's road improvement scheme which is well under way 63 09 04b

1964 01 30

Milton war memorial on new site after removal – 64 01 30c

1964 02 24

Milton Roman archaeology – Ken Humphries – 64 02 24a

1964 09 07

Milton people petitioned for a weekly refuse collection saying their dustbins are seething with maggots and breeding house flies and rats. The present fortnightly collections are inadequate. Some residents of the flats have no open fireplace or incinerator and since the lawns have been sown, no open ground to burn kitchen waste. Young children were tempted to explore overflowing garbage and gastric illnesses had caused high absence from the school. 64 09 07b

1964 09 08

Milton dustbin complaints answered – 64 09 08

1964 09 18

Milton High Street farmhouse demolition for Hereward Estate – photo – 64 09 18d

1965 01 12

A new German machine at Milton owned by Cambridge Precast Stone can produce enough bricks to build a house in less than two hours, thus helping to beat the national brick shortage. It is the biggest installation in the country and will enable the firm to supply orders from builders' merchants. It comprises a dragline feeding aggregate to a mixer where cement and colouring are added. The moisture content is measured by an automatic 'Hydrobot' device. The mix is fed to the moulds for vibrating and tamping before the completed bricks are delivered on pallets to an off-loading conveyor 65 01 12a

1965 07 15

Jack Green who set up brick-making machine at Milton has gone into liquidation because teething troubles – 65 07 15a # c.23

1972 06 30

"For many years until recently we at Milton have suffered the stench from the city's sewage farm. Milton has developed enormously in recent years into a thriving community. We hope to develop a large recreational area for boatmen, fishermen, picnicking etc to which people will be welcomed from elsewhere. Now however as a blow to all these hopes comes the suggestion to site a gypsy encampment on our boundary. It also appears we shall have to suffer the northern by-pass nearby and extra traffic with it. We ask, is this fair?" - letter from D.Pearson, chairman of Milton Parish Council

1972 07 08

The Cambridge By-pass Inquiry began their 66th session yesterday with a spell of market square haggling between Milton village and the Department of the Environment. Milton Parish Council are worried about the proximity of the Northern By-pass to the village and the effect of an interchange on the A10. They had put forward an alternative by-pass route but offered yesterday to withdraw it if the Department made three concessions. The Department offered two but hesitated on the third. Said the Inspector "It seems to be what is called a piece of horse-trading". The clerk to the Parish Council, Mr Kenneth Humphries, said that the proposed western by-pass for Milton should be built concurrently with the Northern By-pass in order to cope with the extra traffic.

1972 07 29

The Department of the Environment have squashed a plan to develop a 20-acre industrial estate in Milton Road, Cambridge, opposite Trinity College's proposed 13-acre science park. Bitter controversy has shadowed the scheme from the start. It was first approved by Cambridge City Council but later vetoed by the County Council who said they had already earmarked sufficient land for industry. The planning permission was for construction of roads and sewers as a first step to an industrial estate being sought by Stokes of Cambridge Ltd. When they were turned down by the County council they appealed to Whitehall and a public inquiry was held in February this year

1972 09 12

St John's College, Cambridge, have refused to sell land on the long disused army camp at Milton which Cambridgeshire & Isle of Ely County Council want for building a gypsy caravan park. For years the City Council have been urging the County council to provide a site near Cambridge for a gypsy caravan park to prevent gipsies from illegally occupying various council owned land in Cambridge. But whenever either the city or county have suggested any particular site there has been an immediate public outcry against the plan

1973 01 19

Cambridgeshire will soon boast a 60-acre country-park at Milton Pits and picnic sites at Mepal Pits and Shepreth if a Committee proposal is backed by the County Council. The Countryside Commission are poised to give grants to cover 75 per cent of the purchase and development costs for all three sites. The picnic site at Shepreth would cover about 24 acres of smallholdings land on the western side of the road from Shepreth to Barrington. One side has a frontage to the River Rhee. The Cambridgeshire & Isle of Ely Naturalists Trust say they are prepared to lay out a nature trail for visitors

1973 03 20

Laser-Scan Ltd, who will become the first Cambridge company to move on to the Trinity Collage science park at Milton Road, are a typical science-based concern. Founded in 1969 the Company was the brainchild of three Cavendish Laboratory scientists. They could not afford the type of equipment which could do the work they wanted, so decided to design their own apparatus and get it made. Within two years they had established firmly the principles they wished to follow, within two further years they had built the necessary working equipment, known as a "sweepnik". However a firm cannot stand still and the firm hopes to be in their 5,000 square feet factory on the Science Park by the end of the summer. As a high-technology business Laser-Scan are precisely what the planners have in mind for the science Park. Work on laying the spine road and sewers began this month and developers hope to have the first phase completed by August. When fully developed the 13-acre site is planned to provide up to sixteen factory units. Trinity College expect the final development to provide jobs for up to 1,000 people

1973 04 26

The scheme to build a hypermarket for Tesco on the outskirts of Cambridge has been rejected by the city council. The scheme was put forward on behalf of Tesco by Stokes of Cambridge Ltd. They asked permission to build a 100,000 square foot hypermarket with a car park for 900 cars on land off Milton Road next to the railway line. The store would have been one of the largest in Cambridge. In turning it down the planning committee said it was outside the area allocated for development, would encourage extra traffic on a fast trunk route and was against the shopping policy for Cambridge in which large scale development is aimed at the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh Street area

1973 10 19

Laser-Scan Laboratories Ltd, a science-based Cambridge firm set up four years ago, made history when they became the first tenants of the new Cambridge Science Park this week. The Trinity College scheme is being developed on land off Milton road. The Senior Bursar, Dr John Bradfield said they believed it was the first science park in England. "We are 99 per cent certain on signing a contract with a second tenant and we have two more in advanced stages of negotiation", he said. "The idea was first mooted four years ago by the Mott committee and I think we have done very well to get this far

in four years". He said the college were looking for a commercial return on their venture, but not necessarily in the usual financial expectations of recovering costs in a given number of years

1973 11 05

Cambridge's prospective parliamentary Labour candidate, James Curran, believes that the way gipsies are thwarted at every turn should be on everyone's conscience. He said "The city council have deliberately built obstructions round waste ground which they feared might be occupied by gypsy settlement, they have hounded gipsies out of the city". He claimed the site earmarked for possible use by gypsy caravans at Milton - part of the disused army camp was "totally unsuitable". "It is sandwiched between the proposed by-pass on one side and the sewage works and waste disposal company on the other. Why should gipsies have to put up with what everyone else in Cambridge would find intolerable"

1974 03 06

Plans for a water park at Baitsbite lock, including a 2,000-metre rowing course have run into trouble with Milton parish council whose objection was that good agricultural land would be lost. It would slice through the ancient course of Fen road, now an almost traffic-free track to the river, which would become choked with heavy traffic. Milton would be overwhelmed with recreation areas since hundreds of acres have already been zoned for a country park

1974 09 10

Anglian Water Authority have asked Souths Cambs district council to refuse permission for any new development and severely restrict building in a further 19 because of the overloading of the sewage treatment works, Milton, whose drains lead into the Cambridge works has suffered from a development embargo for the last four years. It is now joined by Shelford, Girton, Histon and Fen Ditton where a complete ban on development is requested. At Over, Gamlingay and Bassingbourn permission will only be given to one-building application. All of these sewage works have been badly overloaded for some time but the cuts in public spending have prevented AWA from going ahead with extension schemes

1974 10 17

The A10 crossroads at Waterbeach, an accident blackspot which over the past year has been the scene of two death crashes, is to be altered before the end of the year. Milton's High Street is also acknowledged to be a stretch of road where accidents frequently happen. The head of the police traffic division said "I don't see there is anything basically wrong with the part of the road which passes through Milton provided people are sticking to the enforceable speed limit." During the year within Milton's built up area seven road accidents involving personal injury were reported.

1975 02 20

Milton has no chance of getting a branch library at the moment. Finance for such projects as new branch library buildings simply isn't available the Deputy County Librarian explained. Outline planning permission for the land at one end of a garden near Coles Road lapsed this month. Building on sites without outline planning permission is strictly embargoed by the Anglian Water Authority so Milton must put up with its part time, limited stock library which opens in the British Legion hall on two afternoons and two evenings.

1975 08 18

Milton children cycling or walking to Impington Village College will have to negotiate heavy traffic on the new by-pass for the village before they can reach their school. This follows the decision by the Environment Secretary not to build a special bridge or underpass where the bypass will cross Butt Lane. He feels that with improved visibility there would be less danger than at present. Vice Chairman of the Parish Council said the council had argued strongly in favour of such a crossing & it was a 'sad decision'

1976 01 03

A huge clearing up operation was organised by emergency services as the hurricane winds died down. The trail of wreckage included tiles ripped off hundreds of homes, fences blown down, flattened greenhouses and television masts torn off chimneys. At Milton an ancient elm tree which only months ago was declared safe by tree experts was partly blown down. At Histon the side of a house was blown out on a new estate and some villages between Harston and Bassingbourn were still blacked out today after the hurricane blew down power cables.

1977 01 05

A former Cambridge businessman who built a £30,000 road at Milton without planning permission has now applied to keep it in operation to serve 12 proposed allotments. The site where the road was built in 1974 has been the centre of controversy for some years. Enforcement notices ordering the removal of the road, along with a Nissen hut and the clearing of scrap from the site were issued two years ago. Milton parish council clerk, Mr Barry Connor, said the village had two sets of existing allotments. One belonging to the parish council would be cut in half by the new by-pass. The other belonged to the church. There was a waiting list for the parish council's allotments.

1977 02 10

Planners took a long hard look around Cambridge to see where development could best be accommodated. They soon dismissed Histon or Girton because they have relatively limited potential for longer-term growth. At Milton there is considerable opportunity for expansion within the new road framework. Both Bar Hill and Waterbeach possess characteristics suitable for growth, but Cottenham is less accessible to Cambridge. Growth of up to 4,000 might be contemplated in the Teversham-Fulbourn area and the same at Bottisham. To the south it would be possible to develop the Clay Farm area of Trumpington and the Shelfords but Sawston seems to have the greatest development potential

1977 08 09

Cambridge wants its northern by-pass badly, yet it has done little to make the men who are building it feel welcome. At the by-pass site office a community of men from Bovis Civil Engineering Ltd living in 80 caravans find that after long hours when the continual chugging of the expensive machinery finally ceases and the clouds of choking dust begin to settle, that Cambridge has been found wanting. "It is the worst town for entertainment I have ever been in. About half of us are northerners and what we really miss is the working men's club sort of place", said one. Others prefer to live with their wives on the site and find the local school at Milton the best anywhere. About a dozen children from site families go there.

1977 09 08

A scheme for a superstore at Milton, which would create 200 local jobs, got the thumbs-down from the planners. It was proposed by the Associated Dairies group which had similar plans for the Scotsdale Garden Centre site at Gt Shelford rejected after a lengthy inquiry. Like that plan the Milton scheme ran into fierce opposition as soon as it was suggested. Local traders said it would push many of them into bankruptcy. Their business had already been affected by the Tesco superstore at Bar Hill

1977 10 19

Structure plan ideas for channelling Cambridge expansion population into the "pleasant little villages" of Milton and Waterbeach over the next 15 years have been described as "completely abhorrent" by Coun Paddy Crossman. He doubted that the population increase during the next 20 years would be anywhere near as high as the 12,800 predicted by the planners. Among the proposals is one to permit Milton (pop 1,400) to expand to 6,000 and to allow for industrial development in the village to provide jobs. Waterbeach is earmarked for some development, though on a much smaller scale

1978 03 29

A Cambridge businessman, Lloyd Stokes, has submitted plans to build a 21-acre industrial estate just north of the old railway on the A10. It is opposite the Trinity Hall Farm science park which he developed from farmland worth about £130 an acre and has recently sold for £200,000. Mr Stokes is



still involved in a four-year planning wrangle over what the District Council considers an illegal road at the rear of the Milton Industrial Estate.

1978 09 22

The tools used in 44 years of farming near Milton went under the hammer when nearly 500 items ranging from heavy-duty tractors to ancient forks figured in a selling-up sale. The Downham Brothers, Richard and William, farmed about 70 acres of land from 1934. But William died last year and Richard decided to call it a day. A new road scheme has decimated the land, which will now go to other uses including the science park and light industry. An old tumbrel cart went for £40, tractors fetched £800 and £420 while some disc harrows were knocked down for £600 and a mower for £520.

1978 10 04

Milton parents and parish councillors are keeping an eagle eye on pupils crossing the two-mile Milton bypass which opened this week. Police say there had no problems with schoolchildren crossing the busy road between Impington Village College and Milton. But all are concerned at the speed of traffic on the new road which is expected to intensify when the northern by-pass opens just before Christmas. The Minister of Transport has refused to concede the need for a footbridge, pointing out that this could cost about £35,000.

1978 10 28

The Cambridge rubbish tip at Coldham's Lane, which has been frequently criticised on windy days for its smells and the large amount of paper blown from it, is to close. But the tip which is now full up will be replaced by a massive hole in the ground just a few hundred yards away at the worked-out quarry by the side of the Norman Cement Works, where the city's refuse will continue to be dumped. In time there will be a special section for household waste like old furniture and garden waste not normally collected by dustmen. It is expected the new tip will last about five years after which rubbish will be carted to a new tip at Milton.

1979 01 16

Cambridge's northern by-pass is not a thing of beauty and has exposed the city's none-too-glorious backsides. Milton sewage works, the wrong end of the Arbury estate and a few dumping grounds that so far we have been able to conceal. For the local travelling along this stretch of dual carriageway is a new and rather bewildering experience. Coming at everything from an unfamiliar angle creates an impression that north Cambridgeshire as I knew it has been wiped off the map. The really beneficial effect has been the easing of the pressure on the Northampton Street / Castle Hill junction; five times I have passed through these usually overworked traffic lights with little delay.

1979 06 19

Milton people fear it will be turned into the 'dustbin of Cambridge' when large scale industrial and housing developments take place in the city area during the next 15 years. It will be used for everything the city council does not want in Cambridge. Residents are determined to maintain the character of their village. Nobody will want to go and live next door to the sewage works and the agricultural interests will make their views felt when development is suggested.

1981 01 07

Efforts to get permanent sites for gypsies in the Cambridge area are being hampered by meddling by Councils, claimed the representative of the Romany Guild. By circulating petitions demanding a site and threatening legal action they are delaying provision of a permanent site. Communications between different groups were never easy when the caravanners were constantly on the move. His attack follows the removal of 40 families from the Cambridge Cattle Market site and there are now 12 caravan near Milton bypass. 81 01 07b

1981 02 12

A 10-year plan for Milton will see space for another 1,300 houses and 60 acres set aside for industry. Milton was chosen because it has outstanding road links, the potential for rail freight, good public



transport, the availability of building land because of the new roads and the proposed development of the country park. There may be a substantial supermarket and the council must be urged to provide a permanent branch library. When completed its population will have more than doubled. 81 02 12 & a

1981 04 01

Gypsies want to build two permanent caravan sites themselves because they believe the county council is acting too slowly. Members of the Romany Guild, the organisation that represents traditional travelling folk, have submitted plans for sites at Grassy Corner, Chesterton Fen Road at Milton and Royston Road Duxford. This follows Government recommendations that gypsies should try and build their own sites to overcome delays facing local authority plans. But the council says both sites have already been the subject of enforcement action. 81 04 01b

1981 08 07

The disused barracks at Duxford airfield could become a whole new village if the Ministry of Defence gets the go-ahead for expansion plans. The site, which already has 110 houses, would be expanded with more housing, a hotel, community centre and shopping. Such development would take the pressure off Milton which has been designated for the bulk of new housing under the Structure Plan. 81 08 07a

1982 07 12

The long-awaited footbridge over the Milton bypass has opened to the public. One of the first people to try it out was Ken Humphries, the village's district councillor who has led the campaign. Parents petitioned for the bridge following the death of a boy in 1979 but work was delayed after somebody stole the £10,000 aluminium handrails. 82 07 12

1982 07 30

Whitehall has agreed that the wedges of green open land between Cambridge and Milton should stay open. The Department of the Environment has thrown out plans to build warehouse units between the Northern Bypass and the main interchange of the Cambridge-Ely road. It would be wrong to allow such dense industrial or commercial development. Milton and Cambridge should remain physically separated. 82 07 30a

1982 09 30

Milton Hall, near Cambridge, is up for sale with a price of about £500,000. Built in 1772 it was used as a temporary home for Basque children during the Spanish Civil War; later troops were billeted there before it was bought by Eastern Electricity in 1948 as their headquarters. Planners want to see it used as hotel, school, private hospital or offices. 82 09 30a

1983 04 16

Milton villagers watched nervously as a bulldozer moved into the churchyard to begin stripping away topsoil. Any discovered burials will be moved to a new grave. The digging, which started with prayers from Vicar Fred Kilner, launched plans to build a church extension and meeting hall alongside the northern aisle rebuilt by the Victorians. It will act as a church extension for the village's growing population and a meeting hall for the elderly and youngsters. 83 04 16 c

1983 07 02

Sinclair Research has bought the 18th-century Milton Hall as its centre for research into revolutionary and high-risk ideas called Metalab. Milton Hall which was built in 1772 was bought by Eastern Electricity in 1950 as a regional office and research centre. Two large modern wings were added. The cost of the purchase is around £500,000. 83 07 02 p5, 83 07 07 p15

1983 09 22

A shock decision not to finance the building of a country park at Milton could see the end of the scheme. It is in the Structure Plan and has received backing from South Cambs and Cambridge city councils. But the county have decided it cannot finance the project. They say the site is already being

used for recreation and there was no need to develop a country park. Ken Humphries says the decision was a great disappointment: villagers saw the park as one of the advantages to massive expansion of the village. 83 09 22 p3

1983 11 03

Two Milton companies, Collins Communications and CS Devices, have designed electronic devices to stop CB radio buffs fiddling petrol pumps. Garages have been worried that fraudsters used powerful amplifiers – known as burners – to slow down the pumps adding machines and so get more petrol than they paid for. But the new gadgets sound an alarm to warn the forecourt attendant if anyone tries to use a burner. It can also be used with other electronic adding machines at supermarket checkouts and bank cash dispensers. 83 11 03 p11

1985 01 23

Hundreds of farmers and traders flocked to Milton Road sale ground for the biggest traction auction in the country. Yilmaz Alademir had come all the way from Farmagusta, Cyprus looking for a tractor he could ship home as they were much cheaper in England. A more typical buyer was Gavin Hamilton of Manor Farm, Great Chesterford. He was looking for wheels and rollers among the dozens of machines and implements at the back of the saleground. The sale was started in the early 1940s by Mr Henry Grain & Cambridge auctioneers Cheffins, Grain and Chalk have been pulling the crowds ever since 85 01 23b

1985 01 31

Barbara Duff has been Cambridgeshire's stray dogs' greatest friend for twenty years. She has devoted all her energy, time and money to saving thousands from death. Her work started when she visited the council's dog pound near the Milton sewage works. There was a row of pathetic dogs each tied up in a large room, spotlessly clean but unexercised and fed only dog biscuits. She put some in her car and took them to her friends. If they did not want them, she took them to her home. Some she kept in kennels, which can be very expensive and she sold her own antique furniture to raise money. 85 01 31b

1985 09 20

Sinclair Research is selling its award-winning headquarters at Willis Road, Cambridge. The class and stainless-steel conversion of a Victorian bottling plant has been in use since 1982. Now the company's activities are to be concentrated at Milton Hall where their advanced research centre, Metalab is already operating. It is part of a restructuring programme to slim the company in the face of an estimated £15 million debt. 85 09 20

1985 11 07

Cambridge planners have thrown out three major proposals that would have created 1,500 new jobs for the city. Out went a scheme to build an Asda superstore in the new Cambridge Business Park in Milton Road and out went plans for a big new shopping centre between King's Hedges Road and the northern bypass. Also rejected was a Unex scheme for a giant complex for high-tech research on the site of a disused vegetable warehouse site between Hills Road and Brooklands Avenue. Planners say it left no room for landscaping and minimal room for parking. Appeals will be made against all the decisions. 85 11 07c

1985 12 19

A new village for about 4,000 people may be built between Milton and Quays to ease the population explosion pressures which are expected to peak around 2000. The City Council is likely to support the idea because there is no land available for development within Cambridge. South Cambs planners say that unless decisions are taken soon many villages may become strained to their limits by new development. But others have doubts about the need for a new village and no specific location has been selected. 85 12 19

1986 06 05

Milton Rectory may be turned into a temporary home for seriously or incurable ill children and their families. A steering committee is considering a total nursing and physiotherapy staff of 18, backed up with volunteers, with places for nine youngsters accompanied by at least one member of their family. Volunteers have started to clear the overgrown gardens but there are many months of planning and fundraising before the first family finds sanctuary there 86 06 05a

1986 06 06

Camtech's plans for two giant supermarkets at Arbury Camp would fit in with the Unex Group's proposal for a major supermarket and non-food shops on a retail park off King's Hedges Road. But it would offer competition to other schemes currently under discussion. These are the giant Marks and Spencer / Tesco plan for two superstores, a 300-bedroom hotel and multi-screen cinema at Trumpington, Asda's ideas for a supermarket at the Cambridge Business Park on Milton Road and the proposed Tesco store in the Milton Park housing development 86 06 06

1986 08 27

British Rail may build new stations near Cambridge and Huntingdon as part of a modernisation scheme. A county transportation spokesman called for stations at Milton and at new villages near Waterbeach and Swavesey which are under consideration in the Structure Plan review. He'd also like to see the St Ives to Cambridge line re-opened and a stop at Milton would help to service the Science Park as well. This was endorsed by the Railway Development Society who also suggested stations at North Arbury and Cherry Hinton. 86 08 27

1986 11 12

Armed robbers brandishing a sawn-off shotgun burst into Fen Ditton post office just before closing time and terrified the postmaster into handing over £2,000 in cash. They fled in a white Ford Cortina they'd stolen hours earlier. The car was found abandoned down a farm track at Horningsea and the men are thought to have crossed Baitsbite Lock into Fen Road, Milton, where they had a getaway car waiting. Detectives say the raid is identical to one at Haslingfield in February. The Post Office has designated Cambridgeshire and Bedfordshire as a 'high-risk' area because of the huge number of robberies 86 11 12

1986 11 28

Milton Hospice plan progress – 86 11 28c

1986 12 01

Clergy at Melbourn are planning an extension to the parish church on a concrete 'raft' so graves will not be disturbed. A meeting room, vestry, kitchen and lavatories will be built over the old graveyard. There are no headstones and the last burial was more than 100 years ago. It is becoming quite a common thing: similar scheme at Cherry Hinton, Milton and Ely have all been successful. If graves are disturbed the church would give special permission for reburial 86 12 01b

1987 05 12

Villagers in Milton are having to come to terms with the news that a Tesco superstore has been given the go-ahead by Whitehall. For some it will mean £200,000 worth of recreation facilities which the shopping giant has promised – plus cheap and easy shopping. But others fear it will damage the village and even devalue some homes nearby. The new store and filling station could spell disaster for local shopkeepers, whose businesses face being wiped out. Worst hit will be Maid Marion VG Stores and the Benet Garage. 87 05 12

1987 05 12

The ink jet printer can be traced back to 1971 when Graeme Minto was leader in a project at Cambridge Consultants. In 1978 he formed Domino whose first product, the Unijet was used in numbering lottery ticket books and in the food packaging industry. In 1982 they moved from Milton

to large new premises at Bar Hill, joined forces with American Technologies Inc and gained the Queen's Award for Technological achievement in 1985. 87 05 12a

1988 01 07

A new railway station designed to ease Cambridge's worsening transport problems could be sited near the A10 at Milton, says British Rail. No costs for the 'Cambridge Parkway' halt have yet been worked out but BR would almost certainly look for cash from the community to build the new station and car park. Last year the City and County Councils provided £125,000 help pay for new crossing gates at Cherry Hinton 88 01 07c

1988 02 15

Ken Humphries, one of Milton's best-known personalities, has died. His involvement in local government began in 1966 when he became clerk of the parish council before becoming a member in 1976. He represented the village on SCDC for 16 years, fighting for a village bypass and a footbridge over the A10. He was an enthusiastic local historian, assembling masses of material on Milton and was researching material for a village sign which would be a fitting memorial to his work. 88 02 15

1988 07 15

New three-bed, semi-detached homes on the Fallowfields estate at Milton have shot up in price by more than £8,000 in just two weeks, going from £77,500 to £86,000. They were among a batch of 28 houses released for sale at the same time and were snapped up within 24 hours. Property prices in Cambridge itself have soared by nearly nine per cent in two months but senior health and university workers are snubbing prestigious posts in the city because of the high house prices. 88 07 15

1988 10 06

Sir Clive Sinclair is moving out of Cambridge, though his business interests will bring him back to the city regularly. One of his companies, Anamartic is based at Milton Hall and another, Cambridge Computers has flats in Bridge Street, where he can stay. His home, The Stone House on Madingley Road, which dates back to 1896, has a white marble hall floor with a central oak staircases leading to eight bedrooms and three bathrooms, and a drawing room more than 30 feet long, is now for sale. 88 10 06

1988 10 20

The new Tesco superstore at Newmarket, twice the size of that in Hammond Close, provides more than 200 full and part-time jobs. In Cambridge the giant new Co-op Beehive development is double the size of the old one, creating 180 new jobs. It has a crèche, a larger area devoted to fresh fish and a checkout scanner service. An enlarged petrol station will open soon offering the cheapest petrol in town. Meanwhile in Milton a new Stop Shop convenience store will provide the community with day-to-day needs and a video library. 88 10 20a 88 10 24, 88 10 25 & a

1988 12 07

Milton Lamb and Flag pub, 17th century, now modernised 88 12 07b

1989 03 25

A major developer is slicing £10,000 off the cost of new homes in Milton in a bid to ease the stagnant market. Bovis has brought the price of its smallest three-bedroom detached home at The Sonnets down to £104,500 and similar reductions are reflected throughout the range. The four-bedroom detached 'Newnham' is now £136,950, 'The Tewkesbury' has been slashed from £122,950 to £113,950 and the three-bed detached Aura-style home comes down to £117,950. Town houses are selling for £113,950 instead of £122,950. It is hoped buyers in a chain will now reduce the prices of their properties to get sales moving again. 89 03 25.

1989 04 24

British Rail is planning a second Cambridge railway station, provisionally known as Cambridge Parkway, close to Milton and the A45 northern bypass. It is unlikely to be ready in time for the start of electrification services to King's Lynn in October 1991, but could follow shortly afterwards.

However the site needs much better access and provision of parking space. It would serve the high-tech Science Park and provide a way for commuters to join trains without having to struggle through the city. 89 04 24

1989 04 27

Cambridge Newspapers order new web-offset full-colour press to be located at a new printing complex at Milton – 89 04 27

1989 05 15

Milton Children's Hospice open days before launch by Princess Diana – 89 05 15

1989 08 01

Diana, Princess of Wales, made a dream come true when she opened the doors of the Cambridge Children's Hospice at Milton. The caring princess, wearing a stunning red two-piece suit was welcomed by Canon Fred Kilner and matron Sue Potter who came up with the whole idea. She touched the hearts of hospice staff when she met four critically-ill children and brought tears of joy and smiles to the faces of the sick children and their parents. 89 08 01

1989 08 02

Milton Children's Hospice – 89 08 02a, b, c

1989 09 21

Milton planning report from 1941 – 89 09 21a

1989 10 27

Work has begun to turn the CEN into the most advanced newspaper in East Anglia. By 1991 the News will be printed on a full-colour German press, the first in Britain, at a state-of-the-art press complex at Milton. It will include a paper store, press hall, four storey administration and engineering support block and a despatch area. A separate building will allow the company to service its own vehicles. Editorial, advertising, circulation and administration teams will remain at the head office in Newmarket Road. 89 10 27